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Security Council
Seventy-first year

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations:

Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

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Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In a number of resolutions, the General Assembly has noted with satisfaction the active participation of regional and other organizations in the work of the United Nations. The present report is prepared pursuant to the most recent requests of the Assembly that the Secretary-General submit a report on the implementation of those resolutions at its seventy-first session. As requested by the Assembly in paragraph 4 (l) of the annex to its resolution 58/316, this is a consolidated report on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.

The present report covers the period since the issuance of the most recent consolidated report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations, issued on 4 August 2014 (A/69/228-S/2014/560).

In its resolution 1809 (2008), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to include, in his regular reporting to the Council, assessments of progress on the cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional organizations. In its presidential statement of 6 August 2013, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to include, in his next biannual report to the Council and the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations, recommendations on ways to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional and subregional organizations and arrangements.

I. Introduction

1. Section II of the present report has been prepared pursuant to the most recent resolutions in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the cooperation between the United Nations and a number of regional and other organizations.

2. In its resolution 1809 (2008), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to include, in his regular reporting to the Council, assessments of progress on the cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional organizations. In its presidential statement of 6 August 2013, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to include, in his next biannual report to the Council and the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations, recommendations on ways to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and relevant regional and subregional organizations and arrangements.

3. The activities and achievements described in the present report speak to the depth and range of cooperation achieved between the United Nations and its regional partners across international peace and security, humanitarian assistance, development, and human rights.

II. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

African Union

4. The Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council held their ninth and tenth annual consultative meetings in 2015 and 2016. The United Nations-African Union Joint Task Force on Peace and Security continues to meet regularly in order to advance a common understanding of the causes of conflict in Africa and to promote joint approaches to resolving those conflicts.

5. The United Nations Office to the African Union has continued to strengthen the partnership with the African Union in the area of peace and security. Specifically, the Office has enhanced political engagement with the decision-making organs of the African Union and with the Commission. The Office has promoted shared analysis and common understanding between the United Nations and the African Union of the root causes and drivers of conflict and jointly developed options for intervention. Through sustained engagement of the African Union Commission, troop-contributing countries/police-contributing countries, Member States and donors, it has contributed to enhanced political coherence and alignment in decision-making by the two organizations, and promoted better coordinated joint initiatives in conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacekeeping. The United Nations Office to the African Union has been instrumental in facilitating better synchronized planning and management of African-led peace operations, as well as transitions to United Nations operations.

6. The Office continued to work with the African Union on the operationalization of the African Standby Force, as one of the key pillars of the African Peace and Security Architecture. Among the deliverables of this cooperation is the

implementation of the African Standby Force Road Map II, which culminated in the conduct of a continental-level peace support operations exercise, Amani Africa II, in October 2015 in South Africa, and its after-action review in March 2016 in Mozambique. The exercise aimed at assessing the operational readiness of the African Standby Force and involved the deployment of over 5,000 military, police and civilian personnel from the five regional standby forces. Following this exercise, four of the five regional standby forces declared their operational readiness.

7. During the past two years, the African Union-led International Support missions in Mali and the Central African Republic transitioned to fully fledged United Nations missions. Joint planning and management of these transitions have contributed to more effective communication between the African Union and the United Nations. The momentum created by the 2015 High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations report (S/2015/446) and my subsequent report on the future of United Nations peace operations (S/2015/682) has generated willingness among key actors to move forward on institutionalizing and expanding the United Nations-African Union partnership through consultations and coordination while also looking for ways to ensure sustained, predictable and flexible funding mechanisms for African Union peace operations.

8. In Somalia, the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the African Union remains a key component of the international community's support to peacebuilding. Cooperation between the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia on the ground has remained strong, at both the strategic and operational level. The United Nations delivers the logistic support package to AMISOM through the United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia, and its successor operation, the United Nations Support Office in Somalia. In addition, the United Nations Office to the African Union continued to provide technical management and expert advice to the African Union in the planning and deployment of AMISOM. The African Union and the United Nations conducted a second joint Mission in April 2015 which led to the AMISOM Concept of Operations review in August 2015.

9. In Burundi, cooperation on political and human rights efforts has intensified since the beginning of the crisis in April 2015. Since July 2015, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has provided logistical and capacity-building support to the African Union human rights observers and military experts deployed in Burundi and cooperated with the observers in joint monitoring missions and advocacy. In April 2016, the African Union and the Peacebuilding Support Office approved a project of $2.26 million to enable the continued deployment of 32 African Union human rights observers in Burundi for six months starting in April.

10. The Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region has continued to work closely with the African Union, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to advance the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region, signed in February 2013. The United Nations has also cooperated with the African Union, the International Conference and SADC in their efforts to eradicate illegal armed groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, notably the Mouvement du 23 mars and the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda. The United Nations,

together with the African Union, the International Conference and other partners, organized the first Great Lakes Private Sector Investment Conference in Kinshasa in February 2016.

11. Since December 2014, the United Nations and the African Union have co-chaired the International Contact Group on Libya, which has convened five times. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Libya regularly coordinated with the African Union Special Envoy for Libya, as well as with the Commissioner for Peace and Security, including through several visits to Addis Ababa.

12. In Guinea-Bissau, the Peacebuilding Commission has continued to support the region's efforts, including those of the African Union, to resolve the political crisis since August 2015.

13. The Department of Political Affairs continued to support the African Union Commission in its efforts aimed at establishing mediation support structures within the Commission. In 2015, the Department supported the United Nations Office to the African Union, the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan, and the African Union in mediation processes and implementation of agreements for Sudan and South Sudan.

14. The Department of Political Affairs, in consultation with the United Nations Office to the African Union, engaged both at the strategic and operational levels with the African Union and its African Centre for the Study and Research of Terrorism to develop a "Cooperation Framework on Counter-Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism".

15. The United Nations and the African Union continued to coordinate on country-specific electoral projects as necessary. The United Nations recruited and deployed a senior electoral expert to the United Nations Office to the African Union in early 2015. The senior electoral expert has contributed to the United Nations electoral support in the region and provided technical advice to the Democracy and Electoral Assistance Unit of the African Union as necessary.

16. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs provided support to the formulation of the African Humanitarian Policy Framework, policies related to the use and operationalization of the African Stand-By Force and allied resources under the African Union's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Support initiative. The Office also cooperated with the African Union on the Ebola outbreak in West Africa as well as in the run-up to the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul.

17. The Office of the Special Adviser for Africa has supported the Office of the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on Women, Peace and Security. Following the adoption by the African Union of Agenda 2063 and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan, respectively in January and June 2015, the office of the Special Adviser supported efforts by the African Union and its regional economic communities to mobilize international support for Agenda 2063 flagship projects.

18. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime continues to provide support to the implementation of the Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention 2013-2017. The Office is also supporting the African Union-Horn of Africa

Initiative against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, as well as the implementation of the Khartoum Process.

19. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict continued to engage with and support the African Union, in line with the Partnership Agreement signed with the African Union Peace and Security Commissioner in 2013. The Office has seconded a Senior Child Protection Adviser to the Peace and Security Department for the last two years, which is set to continue.

20. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) collaborated with the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank on a number of common initiatives, such as the development and ongoing roll-out of Africa's new long-term vision and development framework, Agenda 2063; the Climate for Development in Africa Initiative; and the Joint Youth Employment Initiative for Africa. ECA, as the secretariat of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, together with the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank and in collaboration with the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) convened the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development in June 2015.

21. UNDP, as one of the three strategic partners of the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), has provided technical, capacity, and advisory support to the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency. The Department of Public Information worked with NEPAD to draw global attention to issues critical to Africa's development. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) supports NEPAD capacity development work for nutrition-sensitive agriculture investment plans and the establishment of a knowledge-sharing platform for food security and nutrition as well as the implementation of the NEPAD Youth Programme. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has worked with NEPAD to combat rural poverty across the continent.

22. UNEP works with the African Ministries of the Environment and the African Union to assess ways to increase the contribution of natural capital to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union's Agenda 2063. UNEP is engaging the African Union Commission and Governments in the organization of a high-level panel on wildlife illegal trade.

23. Later in 2016, the first annual report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations-African Union partnership will be issued, as requested in the Security Council presidential statement dated 16 December 2014.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

24. In 2015, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the United Nations conducted the second formal review of the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the two Organizations, adopted in November 2011. At the seventh ASEAN-United Nations Summit in November 2015, the Secretary-General and ASEAN Leaders agreed to hold consultations at the regional level and to produce an ASEAN-United Nations Plan of Action for 2016-2020.

25. As a follow-up to the Summit, a United Nations senior-level delegation held the first full-fledged secretariat-to-secretariat dialogue with the ASEAN secretariat,

and also a full consultation with the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives in March 2016 in Jakarta.

26. In February 2015, the second ASEAN-United Nations Regional Dialogue on Political-Security Cooperation, entitled "ASEAN-United Nations Collaboration in Support of the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation", was co-organized by the Department of Political Affairs, the Government of Myanmar, and the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies. The Department continues to convene secretariat-to-secretariat meetings, ASEAN-United Nations Senior Officials' meetings, the ASEAN-United Nations Ministerial Meetings and ASEAN-United Nations Summits. The eighth ASEAN-United Nations Summit is scheduled to take place in September 2016 in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

27. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) convenes the Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism, which coordinates the United Nations system's collaboration with ASEAN on a number of issues. ESCAP has focused on coordinating United Nations inputs on economic and sociocultural cooperation for the 2015 interim Work Plan and the plan of action. ESCAP also provided capacity development assistance to ASEAN countries in several areas and supported tracking progress of the 12 Asia-Pacific least-developed countries towards meeting their graduation threshold.

28. In August 2015, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific organized the twenty-fifth United Nations Conference on Disarmament, with the participation of ASEAN.

29. The Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate continued to assist ASEAN member States to strengthen their capacity on counter-terrorism. It also worked closely with the ASEAN Police Chiefs secretariat.

30. UNODC cooperates with ASEAN through its Offices in Jakarta and Bangkok. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration of the tenth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime in October 2015 endorsed illicit trafficking of wildlife and timber and people smuggling as new areas of transnational crimes as well as the formulation of a new ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime. With the launch of the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015, UNODC has worked on promoting the inclusion of security considerations when enhancing illicit cross-border trade.

31. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs engaged with ASEAN in a number of areas under the 2010-2015 ASEAN-United Nations Joint Strategic Plan on Disaster Management. It has also been an active partner in the development of the ASEAN Standby Arrangements and Standard Operating Procedures, the development of the ASEAN Regional Forum's Humanitarian Assistance to Disaster Relief Operations Strategic Guidance, together with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and others.

32. The role of the International Labour Organization (ILO) is defined in the ASEAN Labour Ministers Work Programme 2010-2015 and it is responsive to ASEAN priorities on mainstreaming the Decent Work Agenda. In 2015, ILO furthered its cooperation with ASEAN in a number of areas, including international labour standards, social protection, occupational safety and health, and promotion of workers' rights (including migrants' rights). ILO has a number of ASEAN-wide projects and contributes technical assistance to ASEAN.

33. FAO and ASEAN collaborated on several initiatives, including the development of a food security strategy, building the resilience of small-scale farmers and fishers, and climate change adaptation, mitigation, preparedness and response.

34. IFAD, in partnership with ASEAN and the European Union, launched a programme to improve the income and food security of small-scale farmers and rural producers in Asia in September 2015.

35. UNEP has facilitated preparation of the ASEAN-UN Work Plan on Environment and Climate Change 2016-2020 and continued to support capacity development and knowledge sharing.

36. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) strengthened its cooperation with ASEAN through closer engagement in macroeconomic surveillance and capacity-building. High-level engagement between the IMF Managing Director and ASEAN Ministers of finance and central bank governors has been institutionalized. The IMF also participates in the ASEAN ministerial meetings where it provides high level, confidential assessments of risks, resilience and vulnerabilities in the region. The IMF provides training and technical assistance to ASEAN country officials and conducts regular outreach to civil society organizations and academics from ASEAN countries.

Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

37. The Secretary-General met with the Secretary-General of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC) in December 2014. They discussed political stability, peace and conflict resolution in the region, as well as regional cooperation on economic and development issues, in particular climate change and the post-2015 Agenda.

38. The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) continued its cooperation with BSEC in a number of transportation-related areas. BSEC was instrumental in launching the use of the International Vehicle Weight Certificate as established by the 1982 International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods administered by the ECE Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport. ECE supported BSEC with developing a regional trade facilitation strategy.

39. UNEP works closely with BSEC to enhance the current structure of environmental governance in the Black Sea region and to integrate environmental considerations into national and regional policy dialogue. UNEP facilitates environmental discussions between Member States and offers expertise regarding transboundary issues of concern.

Caribbean Community

40. The eighth General Meeting between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the United Nations system was held at the CARICOM secretariat in Georgetown in July 2015, with the participation of the CARICOM Secretary-General. The participants reviewed the progress made in implementing the coordination mechanism led by the United Nations Development Group for Latin America and the Caribbean and exchanged views on priority areas as identified by the CARICOM secretariat. Among the topics discussed were Small Island Developing States, climate change, renewable energy, the post-2015 Development

Agenda and financing for development, as well as citizen security and non-communicable diseases.

41. Following a United Nations needs assessment mission in March 2015, the Department of Political Affairs, in cooperation with UNDP, organized a Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) training and a round-table discussion on electoral matters for participants from the CARICOM secretariat and member States, which was held in March 2016. The workshop was an opportunity for the CARICOM secretariat, electoral officials from 12 CARICOM member States, the United Nations and representatives from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Organization of American States, to share experiences and good practices on key electoral issues.

42. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) supported and worked with the CARICOM secretariat and national mechanisms for gender equality in the 20-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and in the lead-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. UN-Women continues to support gender-responsive follow-up to the Third International Conference on Small-Island Developing States (2014) in the region. UN-Women and CARICOM partnered in the development of the CARICOM Gender Equality Indicators Model, adopted in October 2015 by the CARICOM Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians, to monitor gender equality commitments in the Sustainable Development Goals.

43. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs and CARICOM organized a workshop on "Evidence-Informed Policies on Youth Development in the Caribbean" aimed at strengthening capacity to formulate, monitor and evaluate evidence-based policies on youth using internationally agreed indicators. The Department also supported the preparation of a regional e-Government strategy for the Caribbean at the request of CARICOM, together with the Caribbean Centre for Development Administration. The Department is currently finalizing a conceptual framework on e-Government for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Caribbean small island developing States, co-sponsored by the Centre for Innovation on e-Government and funded by the Government of Colombia.

44. The Department of Public Information worked with representatives from member States of CARICOM and the African Union for the 2015 and 2016 commemorations of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

45. FAO works closely with the CARICOM secretariat on the implementation of the Regional Food and Nutrition Strategy of CARICOM. Among other things, FAO leads two working groups — food security and natural resource management — of the Regional Agricultural Cluster that is chaired by CARICOM. It also supports the development of value chains identified by the CARICOM Council of Trade and Economic Development through two technical cooperation programmes.

46. UNEP participated in the meeting of the Council on Trade and Economic Development of CARICOM responsible for the promotion and development of policies for the protection of the environment and for sustainable development. It also cooperates with CARICOM on policy issues and project implementation.

47. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) coordinates and collaborates with CARICOM on gender equality, youth empowerment, reduction of adolescent pregnancy and maternal mortality, HIV prevention, gender-based and sexual violence prevention, data for development, humanitarian assistance, and population censuses.

48. The World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) have continued their partnership with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency of CARICOM. In 2015, the Agency and WFP co-chaired the regional consultations for the World Humanitarian Summit in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

49. UNODC supported the CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy with training on addressing money-laundering and transnational organized crime. It also re-established its programme presence in Bridgetown.

Central European Initiative

50. The World Health Organization (WHO) participated in the meeting of the national coordinators of the Central European Initiative with other regional and international organizations, held in Vienna, Austria in May 2015.

51. The World Meteorological Organization promoted a new capacity-building project aimed at making South-East Europe a more climate resilient region.

52. ECE works with the Central European Initiative on advanced biofuels in the context of a bio-based economy.

Collective Security Treaty Organization

53. The United Nations continued to engage the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) in regular consultations on regional and global peace and security issues of mutual interest, as well as potential areas for greater cooperation on conflict prevention, early warning and peacekeeping-related issues.

54. In September 2014, the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate Executive Director held consultations in Moscow with the Deputy Secretary-General of CSTO. Among other things, the consultations focused on the Executive Directorate's cooperation with CSTO, the situation in Central Asia, and regional activities organized by implementing partners with the expert support of the Executive Directorate. In follow-up to that meeting, a draft protocol on cooperation between the two organizations is currently under consideration.

55. In 2015, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Regional Office for Caucasus, Central Asia and Ukraine engaged CSTO in order to enhance interoperability during emergency response.

Commonwealth of Independent States

56. In September 2014, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate's Executive Director held consultations in Moscow with the Head of the Anti-Terrorist Centre of the Commonwealth of Independent States on its cooperation with the Commonwealth, among other topics. In 2015, the Executive Directorate and the Anti-Terrorist Centre exchanged information on the foreign terrorist fighter threat in the regions, as well as on measures taken by the Anti-Terrorist Centre to counter violent extremism, incitement and radicalization.

The CIS Anti-Terrorist Centre also participated in the assessment visits of the Counter-Terrorism Committee in 2015 and 2016.

57. FAO supported the development of the Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS action plan for the implementation of the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics in the CIS region.

58. ECE cooperates closely with the Statistical Committee of CIS through sharing of programmes of work and organizing joint activities. The ECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents engages in regular exchange of information with the Inter-State Council on Industrial Safety under CIS on industrial accident prevention and preparedness.

59. WHO participated in the forty-third plenary session of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of CIS, held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, on 27 November 2015.

Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

60. The Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) is a key partner of ILO for the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour in Portuguese-speaking African countries and Timor-Leste. 2016 was declared "CPLP Year Against Child Labour" for which ILO has organized workshops to draft a plan of joint activities to secure adoption of national plans. A joint ILO/CPLP letter asks Member States to raise awareness of child labour and ratify Convention 138.

61. UNODC continued to cooperate with the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the implementation of their action plan on trafficking in persons.

62. FAO is implementing a technical cooperation programme in support of the CPLP Regional Strategy for food security and nutrition.

Council of Europe

63. The United Nations and the Council of Europe continued their cooperation on the protection and strengthening of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, as well as regional issues. In June 2015, the Secretary-General visited the Council of Europe, where he also addressed its Parliamentary Assembly. The Secretary-General of the Council of Europe participated in the high-level segment of the General Assembly and addressed the sessions of the Human Rights Council in Geneva. The Council contributed to the discussions leading to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

64. Following the adoption of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014), the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate and the Council of Europe worked closely on the development, negotiations and conclusions of the Council of Europe additional Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism. The Protocol was signed in Riga on 21 October 2015. The Council of Europe participates routinely in Counter-Terrorism Committee visits.

65. ECE cooperates with the Council in the area of demographic statistics and population issues.

66. UNHCR continued its advocacy and provision of legal expertise on refugee law to the Council of Europe.

67. UNODC cooperates with the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe in drug policy development, jointly promoting the right to health for people in prisons and increasing availability, accessibility and quality of HIV services in prison settings for people who use drugs.

Economic Community of Central African States

68. The United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) are revising their framework-of-cooperation agreement in line with the new mandate of the Regional Office for the period 2015-2018. The Regional Office continues to hold regular consultations with ECCAS on issues of common interest. In October 2014, the Regional Office and ECCAS jointly organized a workshop on gender issues in Central Africa. In April 2016, the Regional Office and ECCAS held a joint strategic retreat in Libreville, Gabon, to discuss cooperation between the two entities in light of the challenges facing the subregion.

69. In his capacity as the United Nations representative to the international mediation initiative on the crisis in the Central African Republic, Special Representative Abdoulaye Bathily worked closely with the ECCAS-appointed mediator, President Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Republic of the Congo, the ECCAS Secretary-General and the African Union Special Envoy for the Central African Republic.

70. The Regional Office for Central Africa and the Department of Political Affairs continued to support ECCAS in strengthening its mediation capacity. In November 2014, the Department and the Regional Office organized a mediation training course for staff members of the ECCAS secretariat in Libreville. In February 2015, the Department provided further technical support on mediation at a workshop in N'Djamena.

71. In May and October 2015, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission organized working luncheons with representatives of ECCAS, the African Union Commission, and the Economic Community of West African States, among others. In the course of these, several participants called for an institutional partnership between the Commission, the African Union and the African subregional organizations, and underscored the need for enhanced conflict prevention and predictable investments in efforts to sustain peace.

72. During the reporting period, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the ECCAS secretariat collaborated on strengthening disaster management and preparedness in Central Africa. In 2015, the secretariats of the Office and ECCAS proposed a rapid response roster mechanism, which was launched in June 2016. UNISDR continued to provide technical support for mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in ECCAS activities and programmes.

73. ECCAS continued to take part in regional workshops of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, which culminated in the comprehensive regional counter-terrorism strategy adopted in December 2015. UNODC contributed to the development of this strategy and was given a mandate to support the establishment of a regional judicial cooperation platform for Central Africa in cooperation with ECCAS.

74. UNEP has supported ECCAS to strengthen its capacity to assist countries in their transition towards a Green Economy development model. UNEP and ECCAS also collaborate in addressing the illegal wildlife trade in the region in partnership with the African Union, the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and other relevant bodies.

Economic Cooperation Organization

75. The Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs cooperated with the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in organizing a capacity-building workshop on the Compilation of Quarterly National Accounts for ECO member States in Tehran, in March 2015. FAO has an ongoing collaboration with ECO to enhance the technical capacity of national statisticians in ECO countries.

76. The Forum on Forests collaborated closely with ECO in capacity-building efforts aimed at sustainable management of forests.

77. ECO participates regularly in the work of ECE and undertakes to align its activities with the objectives of the main border-crossing facilitation conventions administered under ECE auspices.

78. UNEP continues to support subregional initiatives in the ECO region in order to enhance environmentally sound and renewable energy services and resources, and to engage in capacity-building services in the areas of environmental law and education for sustainable development and sustainable tourism.

79. UNISDR provides strategic and technical guidance to ECO for incorporating disaster risk reduction and resilience-building programmes. The ECO secretariat, in consultation with UNISDR, is spearheading the preparation of a regional strategy and a plan of action for disaster risk reduction aligning with the Sendai Framework.

Eurasian Economic Community

80. FAO and the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC) are together implementing the 2015-2018 Plan of Action. In June 2015, the FAO Director General visited the EurAsEC headquarters and invited the organization to consider membership in FAO. In September 2015, FAO organized a seminar on "Cooperatives in CIS countries" at the EurAsEC headquarters.

International Organization of la Francophonie

81. The United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF) continued coordinating their mediation efforts. Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa, Abdoulaye Bathily, regularly met with OIF Secretary-General to discuss cooperation in the subregion.

82. In October 2014, the Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect and OIF jointly provided technical assistance to the Government of the Central African Republic to establish a National Committee for the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination.

83. The United Nations Police Division enhanced its cooperation with OIF in order to increase the participation of francophone countries in peacekeeping operations.

84. UN-Women and OIF renewed their framework partnership agreement in 2014 for a further two years to advocate for gender equality and women's empowerment. UN-Women participated in the OIF high-level consultation of francophone ministers on the occasion of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in March 2015.

85. In 2015-2016, the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate and OIF cooperated in the implementation of a project aimed at supporting Supreme Court Justices in leading a criminal justice response to terrorism in the Sahel region.

86. In the margins of the twenty-first Conference of the Parties, UNDP and OIF renewed their partnership in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In the run-up to the twenty-second Conference of the Parties to be held in Morocco, the cooperation continues around post-Paris activities.

87. The Department of Public Information worked with OIF to organize and promote the March 2016 screening and panel discussion at United Nations Headquarters of the film *Demain*, which highlights issues related to climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Latin American and Caribbean Economic System

88. ECE has a long-standing collaboration in the field of trade facilitation with the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System.

League of Arab States

89. The United Nations and the League of Arab States (LAS) continued to enhance cooperation, including through considering the establishment of a United Nations Liaison Office to LAS in Cairo. The two organizations held their thirteenth biennial General Cooperation meeting from 17 to 19 May 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland, where they discussed collaboration in a number of areas, including peace and security, among others.

90. The Department of Public Information has worked with LAS to strengthen its capacities in conflict prevention and mediation. In 2014 and 2015, the Department hosted LAS staff in order to familiarize them with the Department's work, including its Mediation Support Unit. The Department also conducted an assessment mission to LAS headquarters to determine mediation training needs.

91. The United Nations continued its electoral partnership with LAS, including through BRIDGE (Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections) trainings on electoral matters and technical advice on the establishment of the LAS electoral database. The United Nations and LAS collaborated in organizing the first Forum of Electoral Management Bodies in the Arab States, which was held in Cairo in May 2016.

92. The Department of Political Affairs Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre also engaged in consultations with LAS to explore support for the LAS project on "Promoting Dialogue, Tolerance and Openness through the Media to Counter Terrorism in the Arab Region".

93. UN-Women supported the development of a regional action plan on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), which was endorsed by the Ministerial Council of LAS in September 2015 and will be launched in 2016.

94. In November 2015, the Office of Legal Affairs organized an International Law Seminar for Arab States in cooperation with LAS and the Government of Egypt in Cairo.

95. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and LAS continued to strengthen their efforts aimed at developing a regional Arab strategy for human rights. They held their twelfth sectoral thematic meeting in Cairo in October 2015.

96. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict entered into a cooperation agreement with LAS aimed at mainstreaming "Children and Armed Conflict" in programmes and policies of LAS members and the organization's broader protection and human rights work.

97. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs signed a new joint action plan with LAS in June 2015 which sets out a framework for closer collaboration on emergency preparedness and response, humanitarian coordination, capacity-building, resource mobilization and advocacy. LAS played an active role in the lead-up to the World Humanitarian Summit through its financial contribution as well as hosting of regional consultations. It also co-chaired the Regional Steering Group for the Middle East and North Africa along with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

98. UNHCR and LAS organized a regional training on "Refugees and Irregular Migration" in November 2015. Related to the possible adoption of an Arab Refugee Convention, the Arab Interior Ministers' Council adopted the "Draft Arab Convention" text in March 2016 for which UNHCR provided technical assistance.

99. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) continued its cooperation with LAS to influence regional policy priorities, build consensus and identify regional approaches to challenges, through the organization of consultations, high-level meetings and preparation of knowledge products. ESCWA, together with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UNEP, cooperated with LAS in organizing two Arab High-level Forums on Sustainable Development in Amman, Jordan (April 2014) and Manama (May 2015). ESCWA and LAS worked on a regional initiative for the assessment of climate change impacts on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab Region with workshops in Cairo (December 2014) and Beirut (June 2015).

100. In coordination with the LAS, the United Nations information centre in Cairo organized several online dialogues to promote key issues, including the Sustainable Development Goals and countering violent extremism.

101. UNFPA maintains strategic partnerships with, and provides ongoing technical assistance to, the LAS and OIC, including for the conduct of national family health surveys.

102. UNODC continues to support LAS for the adoption of measures aimed at enhancing the prevention and prosecution of human trafficking cases, protecting victims, and strengthening regional cooperation for the implementation of the "Arab Initiative" and the "Comprehensive Arab Strategy for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings" (2014-2017).

103. IMF works with the Arab Monetary Fund on regional policy coordination, training, Arab statistics and Arab debt markets.

Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM

104. ECE has contributed to the organization's agreement on data exchange concerning Customs.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

105. The United Nations has strengthened its cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in several areas, including in mediation, electoral matters, and country-specific issues.

106. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, together with the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, worked with OSCE on the development of the Joint Plan of Action for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre has also engaged with OSCE in the development of a number of counter-terrorism capacity-building projects and outreach activities, including the OSCE Annual Counter-Terrorism Conference. The Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate has worked closely with OSCE on efforts aimed at countering the financing of terrorism, bringing terrorists to justice, and border control. The OSCE participated in several assessment visits conducted by the Executive Directorate on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and cooperated in implementing the recommendations of those visits. UNODC and OSCE closely coordinate in planning their counter-terrorism activities and have organized several joint workshops in the OSCE region.

107. The Office of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect presented its atrocity crime risk assessment methodology to the annual OSCE early warning focal points meeting in Vienna in July 2015.

108. The United Nations Police Division has coordinated closely with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit. The Police Division and OSCE also hold regular staff-to-staff discussions on guidance coherence between the two organizations.

109. ECE continues its long-standing cooperation with OSCE in advancing the implementation of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers. The two organizations have conducted a number of joint capacity-building events and projects over the last few years in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

110. UNEP, ECE and UNDP cooperate with OSCE within the framework of the Environment and Security Initiative to provide an integrated response to environment and security challenges.

Organization of American States

111. The Department of Political Affairs and the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy of the Organization of American States (OAS) hold yearly desk-to-desk dialogues, the most recent of which took place in December 2015. Within the Joint Mediation Partnership between the United Nations and OAS, the organizations have identified areas for collaboration, including mediation-related training and sharing

of tools, guidelines and expertise. The two also work together on a number of electoral initiatives.

112. The Department of Political Affairs, together with the UNODC Regional Programme Office in Panama, provided technical guidance to OAS in 2015 and 2016 in connection with the OAS Mission to Support the Fight against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras.

113. UNODC and OAS, through the Executive Secretariat of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission, cooperated on a set of joint recommendations on asset recovery and management to the Government of Brazil. They also conducted a training to national authorities in Paraguay on the investigation of corruption and money-laundering.

114. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre participated in the Inter-regional Specialized Workshop on Illicit Finance and Criminal and Terrorist Networks, held by the OAS Inter-American Committee against Terrorism in August 2015.

115. UNDP and OAS launched an early-warning guide for policymakers to prevent and resolve social conflicts in Latin America and the Caribbean, entitled "Early Warning and Response Systems Design for Social Conflicts" in March 2016. The two organizations collaborated closely, along with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and other international partners, in the context of the 2015 Haiti elections.

116. WFP and OAS signed an agreement in September 2015 to intensify their joint efforts to improve food security and nutrition in the Americas.

Organization of Islamic Cooperation

117. The United Nations has continued to strengthen its cooperation with the OIC on peace and security matters, including by holding desk-to-desk exchanges and deepening mediation and electoral partnerships. Representatives of the two organizations meet biannually to discuss their cooperation and agree on joint projects. Their latest biennial General Cooperation meeting was held from 11 to 13 May 2016 in Geneva. In addition, the United Nations is working with OIC on a joint initiative to facilitate peace talks between the Taliban and the Government of Afghanistan.

118. The Department of Political Affairs and UNDP supported OIC in organizing a workshop on the role of civil society in enhancing the integrity of electoral processes in July 2015. The Department's Division for Palestinian Rights collaborated with OIC in organizing three international conferences on the Question of Jerusalem.

119. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Centre for Counter-Terrorism and the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate continued to strengthen their cooperation with OIC and regularly engaged with OIC on efforts of OIC member States in implementing, respectively, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and provisions of Security Council resolutions 1624 (2005) and 2178 (2014).

120. FAO supports a series of studies by OIC on food loss and waste and is also collaborating with the Islamic Development Bank and with the Statistical,

Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries to implement the Global Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Statistics.

121. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs cooperates with the humanitarian department of OIC to build their capacity and to jointly advocate for a better and more effective humanitarian response. In November 2014, OIC co-led a partnership mission to Chad with the African Union and the Office to raise awareness of the prevailing situation. In June 2015, OIC and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs brought together OIC-affiliated non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from the Global South and international NGOs to discuss ways to enhance inclusive coordination in humanitarian affairs.

122. UNHCR continued enhancing its cooperation with OIC. A high-level OIC delegation participated in the UNHCR High-level meeting on global responsibility sharing through pathways for admission of Syrian refugees held in March 2016 in Geneva.

123. WHO is a member of the OIC Steering Committee on Health, and is active with several OIC bodies, including the Islamic Development Bank, the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries. WHO works closely with the Islamic Advisory Group on Polio Eradication.

Pacific Islands Forum

124. In August 2014, the Secretary-General participated in the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa, where the small island developing States Accelerated Modalities Of Action ("Samoa Pathway") was adopted. United Nations entities provided support to the Pacific small island developing States in the lead-up to the Conference and have taken steps to support the implementation of the Samoa Pathway outcome document, in close collaboration with the Pacific Island Forum and the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific.

125. On 26 September 2014, the Secretary-General met with the leaders of the Pacific Island Forum on the margins of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly to discuss the importance of the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, climate change and gender issues. On 1 October 2015, the Secretary-General met the leaders on the margins of the seventieth session of the General Assembly, where they affirmed the need to urgently and decisively address the unique vulnerabilities of small island developing States, including through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and on climate change.

126. ESCAP and the Pacific Islands Forum cooperated on promoting the sustainable development of small island developing States through a range of initiatives and activities aimed at enhancing national capacities and institutions, enhancing the Pacific voice and representation.

127. UNDP has continued its dialogue with the Pacific Island Forum and the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific entities on how best to align United Nations Development Frameworks and related country programming with the priorities identified by Pacific leaders in the context of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism and the Samoa Pathway.

128. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has engaged with the Pacific Island Forum on advocacy for internal displacement issues, launching together with OHCHR a campaign to raise awareness and build commitment by Member States on issues related to displacement. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has also engaged the Pacific Island Forum around the World Humanitarian Summit regional consultations.

129. UNODC works in close cooperation with the Pacific Islands Forum secretariat, including in response to its request for assistance in updating model legal provisions to harmonize them with current international legal standards related to terrorism.

130. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs, together with the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, chairs the Inter-Agency Consultative Group on small island developing States, an informal mechanism for collaboration on issues advancing the sustainable development of small island developing States.

131. FAO continued its cooperation with the Pacific Island Forum, including on land management, integrated pest management, agricultural statistics, atoll agriculture and oceanic fisheries management.

Shanghai Cooperation Organization

132. In October 2014, the Director of the Executive Committee of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization briefed the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee on its regional efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism. The Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure also participated in a Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate assessment visit to Uzbekistan and hosted a meeting between the Director of its Executive Directorate and delegation in Tashkent in April 2015. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization attended and substantively contributed to a regional workshop on preventive obligations and criminalization of offences regarding foreign terrorist fighters jointly held by UNODC and OSCE in Almaty in August 2015.

133. ESCAP has strengthened its cooperation with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). In May 2015, the Secretary-General of SCO attended the seventy-first session of ESCAP, where the Executive Secretary and the Secretary-General agreed to renew the memorandum of understanding between the two organizations for an additional five years, with a greater emphasis on economic development and regional cooperation.

134. WHO collaborated with SCO on the organization of the second meeting of Ministers of Health of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, held in Moscow in July 2015.

Southern African Development Community

135. The Department of Political Affairs continued to support SADC with technical assistance on mediation. In 2015, the Department supported the efforts of the SADC Mediation Support Unit by providing experts to the meetings of the SADC Mediation Reference Group and contributing to the development of SADC mediation training.

136. Since the start of 2015, the Department has engaged in consultations with SADC Member States and the SADC secretariat on the establishment of a United Nations regional office for Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean region.

137. The Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre assisted SADC with the development of a regional counter-terrorism strategy, which was approved by the Summit of the SADC Heads of State and Government in August 2015.

138. UNODC and SADC developed a Joint Regional Programme to make the SADC region safer from crime and drugs (2013-2016). The Office supported SADC member States in strengthening their capacity to implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. UNODC and the SADC secretariat carried out a number of joint activities aimed at bringing national legislations into compliance with international standards and raising the capacity of SADC member States to address drug trafficking, trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, gender-based violence and corruption.

139. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and SADC collaborated on early warning, information management, emergency preparedness and regional coordination during emergency response, among other things. The Office supports the roll-out of standardized vulnerability assessment tools to allow a comprehensive and comparable analysis of risk across the region. The Office's Regional Office for Southern Africa is supporting SADC in the development of its humanitarian framework.

140. UNISDR supported the establishment of a disaster risk reduction unit in the SADC secretariat. In December 2015, SADC and UNISDR jointly conducted the first ever peer review on disaster risk reduction in Africa.

141. UNEP joins the SADC Technical Committee on Environment in an advisory capacity and has provided technical advice to the finalization of the SADC Environment Protocol Development of the SADC Climate Change Action Plan, SADC Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan and the SADC Green Growth Strategy.

III. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; and Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

142. The Office for Disarmament Affairs is working with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education, with a particular emphasis on empowering women.

143. OPCW is a member of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and co-chairs its Inter-Agency Working Group on Preventing and Responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction Terrorist Attacks. Within this Working Group, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force-United Nations Counter-Terrorism

Centre and OPCW have developed a global project on ensuring effective inter-agency interoperability and coordinated communication in the case of chemical and/or biological attacks.

144. ECE worked with OPCW on chemical safety and industrial accident prevention, notably through a joint workshop on industrial accident prevention for Central Asia in Astana in May 2015. OPCW has also joined an inter-agency coordination group on industrial accidents, established by ECE in the context of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

IV. Observations and recommendations

145. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations has significantly deepened and diversified in recent years. Such cooperation has proven critical to ensuring effective international peace and security engagements, as highlighted in the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (A/70/95-S/2015/446). The Secretary-General remains committed to strengthening further this cooperation through deepened partnerships, especially through developing context-specific approaches to cooperation, taking full account of the specificities and demands of each region, as well as the mandate of the institution concerned.